

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1 and 11 as noted below.

1. (Currently amended) An adjustable device deployment system, for implanting an implantable device within an opening in the body comprising:

an implantable device, said device being movable between a reduced cross section and an enlarged cross section, said device having a proximal end and a distal end, and wherein said device, when fully unstressed, increases radially in dimension from its proximal end to an apex portion, and then decreases radially in dimension from the apex portion to the distal end, wherein the apex portion has the largest radial diameter of any portion of the device;

a sheath having a proximal end and a distal end and a lumen adapted to receive the implantable device;

a deployment catheter adapted to extend through the sheath having an elongate flexible body with a proximal end and a distal end; and

a deployment line adapted to extend through the deployment catheter releasably attached to the implantable device.

2. (Original) An adjustable device deployment system as in Claim 1, wherein the implantable device comprises an expandable frame.

3. (Original) An adjustable device deployment system as in Claim 2, wherein the implantable device self-expands to have an enlarged cross section.

4. (Original) An adjustable device deployment system as in Claim 2, wherein the frame comprises at least two spokes.

5. (Original) An adjustable device deployment system as in Claim 4, wherein the frame comprises at least six spokes.

6. (Original) An adjustable device deployment system as in Claim 4, wherein each spoke is movable from an axial orientation when the implantable device is in the reduced cross section to an inclined orientation when the implantable device is in the enlarged cross section.

7. (Original) An adjustable device deployment system as in Claim 6, wherein each spoke comprises a proximal section, a distal section, and a bend in between the proximal and distal sections when the implantable device is in the enlarged cross section.

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8. (Original) An adjustable device deployment system as in Claim 6, wherein the spokes are cut from a tube.

9. (Original) An adjustable device deployment system as in Claim 1, further comprising a plurality of tissue attachment elements on the implantable device.

10. (Previously presented) An adjustable device deployment system as in Claim 9, wherein the implantable device is moveable between its reduced and enlarged cross sections while distal to the distal end of the deployment catheter.

11. (Currently amended) An adjustable device deployment system, for implanting an implantable device within an atrial appendage comprising:

an implantable device having a proximal end and a distal end and a plurality of supports extending from the proximal end to the distal end, the implantable device being movable between a reduced cross section and an enlarged cross section, wherein the implantable device in its enlarged cross section is sized for engaging an inner surface at an atrial appendage, and having a barrier on at least a proximal face of the device;

a trans-septal catheter having a proximal end and a distal end and a lumen adapted to receive the implantable device;

a deployment catheter adapted to extend through the trans-septal catheter having an elongate flexible body with a proximal end and a distal end; and

a deployment line adapted to extend through the deployment catheter releasably attached to the implantable device, wherein the implantable device is moveable between its reduced cross section wherein the device is not in contact with body tissue and its enlarged cross section wherein the device engages the inner surface at the atrial appendage, the implantable device configured to move from its reduced cross section to its enlarged cross section by actuation of the deployment line while substantially maintaining an axial position of at least one of the proximal and distal ends of the implantable device relative to the atrial appendage, and wherein the implantable device is configured to move from its reduced cross section to its enlarged cross section while the proximal end of the implantable device is distal to the distal end of the deployment catheter by actuation of the deployment line while the implantable device is outside of any catheter or tube.

12. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 11, wherein the implantable device has a proximal hub, with the plurality of supports extending distally therefrom.

13. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 11, wherein the implantable device increases radially in dimension from its proximal end to an apex portion, and then decreases radially in dimension from the apex portion to the distal end.

14. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 11, wherein the barrier is a membrane.

15. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 14, wherein the barrier is made of ePTFE.

16. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 11, wherein the implantable device comprises a plurality of retention elements configured for engaging the inner surface of the atrial appendage when said implantable device is in said expanded configuration.

17. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 16, wherein the retention elements are barbs.

18. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 11, wherein actuation of the deployment line involves proximal retraction of the deployment line.

19. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 11, wherein the implantable device is also moveable between its reduced and enlarged cross section while the proximal end of the implantable device is distal to the distal end of the deployment catheter.

20. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 11, wherein the implantable device is also moveable between its reduced and enlarged cross sections while the proximal end of the implantable device is distal to the distal end of the deployment catheter and the trans-septal catheter.